

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the July 24, 2012 Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining, pursuant to RSA 91-A:2 (a)
(not open to the public)

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Coutu the meeting of July 24, 2012 at 7:58 p.m. in the BOS Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Chairman Coutu asked for a moment of silence, prayer of thought, in memory of the victims of the theater massacre in Aurora, Colorado.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Roger Coutu, Rick Maddox, Ben Nadeau, Ted Luszey, Nancy Brucker

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Captain Bob Tousignant; Chief Shawn Murray; Kevin Burns, Road Agent; Bill Oleksak, Leo Bernard, any Renzullo, John Knowles, Mike Carbonneau, Lucille Boucher

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Coutu opened the floor for public input.

Leo Bernard - 3 Bungalow Ave. My statement is that the recycling is not working out. Every other week, I'm backed up in recycling. I get e-mails from a lot of people saying that it works; it doesn't work. I thought that I should let the Selectmen know that this doesn't seem to be working as good as it should be. That's all I'm going to say.

With reference to that matter only because we do have control, Chairman Coutu said he will be discussing this briefly at this meeting at the Selectmen's comments portion of it. In all fairness to the recycling program, I think 3 weeks is pretty short term to decide whether or not it works or it doesn't work. It's only been 3 weeks. I've had extensive discussions with the Road Agent. There's a plan forthcoming and I will discuss it later in the meeting. I appreciate you as Chairman of the Recycling Committee all of the efforts that you and your Committee have put into this. As you know, I'm as active on that page as anybody else is. I get the huge influx of e-mails from people about recycling both positive and negative as you have. We're well aware of it and we're well on top of it. I want the citizens to know that. I will be discussing it further and Mr. Burns is here in the audience. If he wishes to add anything or detract from anything I say, he's welcome to do so. I know that we both have communicated to the Telegraph this week and we have spoken with a clear and decisive and spoke in unison with regard to how we feel about the recycling program and where we'd like to see it go in and what we can and can't do as a Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Bernard said he has the blue barrel plus 2 more large barrels ready. It's just piling up on me. Chairman Coutu thanked Leo.

5. NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

- a) Recognition of Building Inspector/Health Officer/Zoning Administrator
William (Bill) Oleksak - 25 years of service

Chairman Coutu indicated that we are here to recognize our Building Inspector and he is also the Zoning Administrator. Mr. William Oleksak on behalf of 25 years of service.

William "Bill" Oleksak started with the Town of Hudson in July of 1987 as Code Enforcement Officer. In 2000, he was promoted to the position of Building Inspector and in 2009 he was promoted to the position of Zoning Administrator. Bill has also taken on the added responsibility of Health Officer for the Town, a position he works hard at ensuring the structures in town are safe.

Bill who has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Management and Business Administration, serves on numerous health, building committees in the State, including NH Building Officials Association where he served for over 9 years at its President, the Regional All Hazards Committee, the International Code Council, and the Local Public Health Agency

Standards and Work Force Competencies Advisory Committee. Bill has also received a Certificate of Achievement from the Northeast Regional Public Health Leadership Institute.

Bill and his wife Barbara have 3 children - Matt, Will, and Erin, and they reside in Nashua.

Mr. Oleksak this is a Certificate of Appreciation from the Town of Hudson, Board of Selectmen, presented to you Sir from the Community Development Department in recognition of your 25 years of dedicated and public service. Chairman Coutu indicated that one of the things that is not stated here is that he's an accomplished golfer despite my attempts over the past 5 years to get him to join one of my teams. We have not been able to get together but I know he's traveled and played various golf courses around the world and not just in this country of which I am very envious. With that, we have a gift certificate for a round trip to...no, this gift certificate is from the Board of Selectmen in appreciation. Congratulations and thank you for your 25 years of dedicated and great service to our town. Thank you.

b) Committee Interviews

Chairman Coutu indicated that we have committee interviews this evening.

- a) Cable Utility Committee (2 vacancies; 1 member term to expire 4/30/15; 1 member term to expire 4/30/14)

Susan Limpert - NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Coutu said that Susan Limpert is not here but again, I want to advise people that there are 2 vacancies. If anybody wishes to join the Cable Utility Committee, one of the Committees that I'm very fond to serve on, come into the Selectmen's office and get an application. We welcome having people from cable subscribers apply for that committee.

- b) Hudson Senior Affairs Committee (7 vacancies; 2 member terms to expire 4/30/13; 2 member terms to expire 4/30/14; 1 member term to expire 4/30/15; 1 alternate to expire 4/30/13; 1 alternate to expire 4/30/14)

Chairman Coutu said the other area we're going to interview is for the Hudson Senior Affairs Committee. There are 7 vacancies which we have advertised.

Dorothy Jacobs - 77A Wason Road. I'd like to be on the Committee because I've worked with the seniors for a little over 10 years now. I've really enjoyed it and I want to continue and my main concern is a senior center.

Selectman Luszey asked Ms. Jacobs if she should be appointed, what types of programming would you foresee the new senior center providing for the seniors.

Ms. Jacobs said she knows it's not going to happen right away, but I would like to see more exercise programs and maybe some computers to help some of the older people use them and a few more - knitting, crocheting, or some kind of crafts. More get together things.

Chairman Coutu thanked Ms. Jacobs and appreciated her coming in for the interview.

Andrew Renzullo - 2 Heritage Circle. As most of you know, I'm the Chairman of the present Hudson Senior Council on Aging. I've been at that position for close to 5 years. That organization was formed specifically with the intent of getting a senior center for the Town of Hudson. This Committee that the Selectmen have set up is ancillary to that and those who know me I seldom take something on without finishing it. My wife knows except for the painting in the house. Other than that, I would like to finish this out and make certain that what we have is something I can walk away from saying that's a job that I'm proud of having been part of.

Selectman Luszey asked Mr. Renzullo to tell him a little bit about...because I read in the paper you gave me that was passed out at the last seniors about the charter that I believe you were talking about. The goal of your current committee to get a senior center built. I would look at those goals being finished out to use your words when the senior center is built and up in operational. In your mind for you to finish it out, I'm really thinking you're a little beyond just a physical. There's programming and some other vision that you see. What might that be?

Mr. Renzullo said they're talking about an entire program. What might the programming be? Simple. You ask the people who use it. Believe me, there have been a lot of surveys already that have been done on what the people want. One thing that I think I've learned over years in the town and State politics is how to build consensus - how to talk to folks, how to get people to buy in and to maybe accept 90 percent and have everybody walk away feeling that they've gotten something. I

think that's what I'd like to be able to do on this Committee as well. I think just leaving it with (inaudible) it's a path only partially done if all there is is a structure. There has to be something else beyond that.

By your inference, Selectman Maddox said Mr. Renzullo was saying that the existing Hudson's Council on Aging will go away once the senior center is built. I'm trying to get a better understanding of what you believe will happen. Are these 2 groups going to try to coincide, are they going to be dissolving? Mr. Renzullo said that is something that the group will face once we have our senior center. It was, I think most will agree, the Council on Aging and of course this is something we should be discussing at the end of this meeting - the later portion of the agenda - but if you step back, the Council on Aging was set up specifically to gather a group of civic minded citizens who knew how to get things to happen to help the seniors to get to this goal of the senior center. That was what it originally started out to do. Whether or not the group decides to continue or morph into something, I know that's a term that Selectman Coutu likes. That's something we'll face when we come to it.

Selectman Maddox had a follow up question. And you are politically astute. You can answer that question in a manner that could be...I'm looking to see if you can serve two masters. If you're going to be still one foot in the town's program here and then this private organization how that's going to coincide I guess. Mr. Renzullo didn't see that as being conflicting. The goal is the same I would hope. I don't see it as conflicting.

Chairman Coutu thanked Mr. Renzullo for coming in.

Diane Weild - 51 Webster Street. Since I now live with the seniors, I'd like to become more involved with them in some of their activities and hopefully there will be different activities at the center as well. Chairman Coutu said he read that in your application when I was going through my packet over the weekend. Could you be a little more specific for the general audience about living with the seniors? It makes it sound like you're in a house with a whole bunch of seniors. Ms. Weild said she lives at Buttercup. Chairman Coutu wanted people to know that you're not just living in an old folk's home. I will be doing a tour with them this Thursday as several handicapped senior citizens. Are you a member of the Hudson seniors? Ms. Weild said she was not a member of the Council on Aging but of the Hudson senior center I'm a member. Are they two different things?

Selectman Nadeau said yes. Two separate. Chairman Coutu asked if there was another senior organization I'm unaware of in this town. Selectman Nadeau said you just said that she belonged to the senior...she doesn't belong to the Council of Aging. She belongs to the Hudson senior's organization member of that. Two Separate things. The Friends of Hudson Seniors. Chairman Coutu didn't know they had all these different senior organizations.

On your application, Selectman Luszey said you talk a little bit about planning of the new senior center. Tell me when you talk about planning what you might envision that. Ms. Weild thought a place where the seniors can go and relax and have a good day with different functions running. The exercising like they said but different groups like game groups, reading groups, and even...one thing I found very interesting when my mother used to go to a senior center, they used to have a woman come in and teach them art. That became quite a big thing with the seniors. I think different things like that would be good for them. It would give them another interest in just going and playing Bingo or cards.

Selectman Luszey said Ms. Weild was really more into the creating the program and organizing programming...Ms. Weild said volunteering to create.

What Chairman Coutu got from that, and if I'm wrong Diane please let me know, is that you're looking to have a little more diversity for the seniors than what's presently being offered. Ms. Weild said yes.

Selectman Brucker asked Ms. Weild how long she had been going to the senior center meetings. Ms. Weild said 2 years now. Chairman Coutu asked if that was the Council on Aging meetings. Ms. Weild said no. It's over at the Lion's Club - the Community Center. Mr. Malizia said Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Shirley Lafreniere - Buttercup Hill, 51 Webster Street, Hudson, NH. I love the seniors. I love going to the senior center. I'm there every Thursday. I want to continue helping out. I like being with those people. I do all the activities and everything. I run all the activities at Buttercup - suppers, Bingos, parties. I do them all. I talk them out to dinners. I organize it all. I would like to be part of the town seniors.

Chairman Coutu wanted to ask a question to someone who is attached yet somewhat detached from the situation. I'd like to have you think about the question I'm about to ask and see if you can come up with an answer. We have a population of over 4,000 seniors in the Town of Hudson. This organization of seniors - I guess the combination of both of these organizations has been able to attract maybe some 300 members - not all from Hudson. Some of them are from Nashua. Why is it that you think we can't reach out to the other 3,700 people who are seniors in this community and they've indicated or shown no interest in being a part of an organization of seniors in the Town of Hudson? Ms. Lafreniere said they don't have a home. We need a home. I think you get our home here you get is a building, get a place that's ours that we're going to be able to be at the same place. We don't have to travel. You're going to see a lot more people coming. I know people that live at Buttercup - that's one of the reasons because they don't drive and they don't want to interfere with other people. I think if you got another place, a home, they'd come there. There would be a lot more stuff for them to do. It wouldn't be just going there for lunch, or just going to play Bingo. There'd be a lot more activities for these people.

The reason Chairman Coutu asked that is because somebody brought something to my attention today that Nashua as we know has a senior center. Last Friday 2 seniors from Hudson decided to go over there. The building was open, there was zero people there and they say that's more of what's going on now than not. The question I get asked quite often is are we willing to spend \$2.5 million for 40 to 50 people showing up once or twice a week. I think before we even make this kind of commitment, we need to spur our community into knowing that we are going to provide them a home, an opportunity to learn, an opportunity to interact with other seniors within the community, and we need to generate that attitude. I agree that maybe the lack of a permanent home has somewhat stymied our ability to attract a lot of people. It concerns me that we're going to spend this kind of money and if we can't get a larger number of people, you have to look at are we going to get a good bang for the buck for.

Ms. Lefreniere thought they will once you get the home. I really believe that you will. I've talked to a lot of people. A lot in my age and some younger. Some of them are just turning 55 and up. They're asking me what are you talking about. We're one of the only towns that don't have our own senior center. It's really sad because we have a good town.

Chairman Coutu said five years ago I said it would be one of the priorities when I came onto this Board. It's been 5 years. Ms. Lefreniere said pretty soon you can become a member. Chairman Coutu said he was going to be 69 in about 3 weeks so I could have been a member a long time ago.

Paul Lacasse - 5 Logan Court. I retired a couple of years ago and I've been pretty active. I'd like to continue keeping active. Just to follow up with what the young lady just said, I have not become a senior member yet and I'm applying for this as a foot hole into the organization because they are going to get a building. Otherwise I wouldn't be doing it because I feel it's a standstill.

Chairman Coutu wanted to state for the record that I think Selectman Luszey was going in that direction. What we are doing as a town has nothing to do with the organization. The organization was a structure by which they were able to gather a group of people to provide activities, coordinate trips, and to raise funds to build a building. What they asked us to do and what I heard loud and clear 5 years ago, and I think we all go this message, that nothing would please them more than if we gave seniors some priority within our government institution by establishing and agreeing to adopt a seniors committee under the umbrella of the town government and the structure as I see it but I am only one voice. The Board will decide as a whole. It will come under the Recreation Department. We were going to see what we can do to convince the populous of our town to build a senior center. Once that senior center is open, owned and operated by the town, it is separate, clear and distinct from the Council on Aging or whatever other senior organizations there are, this is a town seniors program. I hope you're getting your foot in the door to try to help us to design the programs and the policies for the senior center that the Town of Hudson will take under our umbrella. I think that was the goal of the seniors. That's what they asked us to do and that's what we're trying to accomplish here.

At this point, Mr. Lacasse has no idea what goes on there now so I can't say. I want to expand whatever it is. I'm assuming that once we do get a billing, those opportunities will come up even more because there will be a permanent place to do things.

For Chairman Coutu as an individual, I'm looking for somebody - some of the people I'm looking for to serve on this committee are people who can offer fresh ideas; that can take a fresh approach to where we've been and where we need to go in order to attract more seniors into a permanent home which we wish to build for them and have under the umbrella of town government.

Based on all the rest of them, Selectman Luszey asked Mr. Lacasse what some of his thoughts and visions on what you see as programming coming out of this organization. Mr. Lacasse said he has no idea what they do right now. Selectman Luszey said that was goodness. You're not biased towards anything. Mr. Lacasse said no he's not. I'm open to anything. I know it was mentioned computers. I think that's a very good idea. There are a lot of seniors that are afraid of computers. I'm not an expert by no means but I do very well with it. I'd be more than happy to work with seniors to do that. Computer games maybe. I'm into games big. I have XBOX, WII and that's good for dexterity in keeping the mind going for the elderly. I'm not an art type of guy. I'm more hands on. Maybe they're doing them I don't know, line dances and exercising. I'm assuming they're doing that now but I don't know that. I'd like to see as far as activities maybe, again I don't know of they're doing it but I used to be part of a diamond club where I used to work years ago. We used to have dinner dances and all that stuff. These are just some of the ideas. They have Bingo now and probably cards. I have no idea what else they do. Those are just some of the ideas and I'm sure there will be more once I get involved and see what's going on.

Chairman Coutu indicated that those were the candidates as a result of advertising that we had. I would recommend and would like to have a consensus of the Board that as a result of the limited number of applications, that we go out and advertise one more time and in our ad we include the phrase "citizens of Hudson 55 and over" and some language that refers to this as a Town of Hudson senior affairs building. If there's no objection, we will hold these applications obviously for consideration and I don't know how much longer you want to go 2, 3, 4 weeks.

Selectman Nadeau said when he first proposed this committee; I did not want to put any age restrictions on this. If we got somebody that was 40 years old and had some great ideas and could work with the Hudson senior population, I

think that we shouldn't limit it to...we don't limit our Rec. Committee members. I look at this board that we're setting up to be similar to the Rec. Committee underneath the Rec. Committee, under the Recreation Director. We advertised. We have these 5 applicants. We still have 2 open positions. I think like we do on any other board, we have the applicants and give them a time frame to work within to get their applications in. I think these candidates are all very qualified to do what I'm looking for. I think there's a good diverse group here. If you want to re-advertise, I think we can re-advertise for the other positions that are open. I'd like to move this group forward. We said we wanted to get it done as soon as we could, so if we want to advertise for the empty positions that we have great. I would like to move forward with the applicants that we have so that they can start working on the programming and the things that we're looking forward for them to be doing.

Selectman Luszey would like to re-advertise on more time. At least give us two more weeks to see if we can't get enough people interested to fill the entire organization. Once we get going and pull this entire group together, we're going to be basically creating the structure for an organization of government. I think we need the entire team to do that. I don't think it's going to hurt us to wait a couple of weeks to see if we can get a couple more people to join the group.

Selectman Maddox was going to go with that. The same as Selectman Luszey. There is no race here. There is no building. There is no budget. There is no a lot of things that we need to get set up. I think appointing all 5 of these tonight and they're all good candidates, I still think we need to work out some details as to where we are going to take this Mr. Chairman. I don't think we need to go as fast as doing it tonight.

The one thing Chairman Coutu wanted to comment further on is Selectman Nadeau's comment that I don't object to at all is that we don't necessarily have to put an age limitation on that. I would agree that you did say that initially that you didn't feel that we should have an age restriction. I would think that if you say it's for senior affairs, it would be hard pressed to get young people...it would be nice to have 1 or 2 young people in there that could get involved and do something like that, but I would never have thought that an 18 year old would run as a write in candidate on the Cemetery Committee. She did and she won in the election. It happens.

Selectman Brucker thought they should wait and it is better to go forward with the whole group before you start organizing.

Just a follow up and Selectman Luszey didn't finish his entire thought the last time. We still need to figure out what we're going to do with this committee and create the marching orders - the charter statement forum and who they're going to report into. I know a couple of us and I think maybe under the Recreation Department but we need to finalize that structure. That to me is why I think a couple more weeks it gives us time to do that and hopefully get the rest of the people we need to fulfill this group.

Chairman Coutu asked Mr. Malizia to put out advertising one more time. Again, a lot of people are on vacation. Some of them will be coming back in August that took July and hopefully we'll attract some other people. Those persons who have applied and who have been interviewed, your applications are not going to go by the wayside. You have not been eliminated. We're obviously going to hold on to those and consider them in total. In the interim, I would like to form an ad hoc committee for two selectmen to serve to help formulate the plan for the committee and to delineate its mission statement if we could and get it in writing. I would suspect Selectman Luszey you would want to serve on that committee. Selectman Luszey said yes. Chairman Coutu asked for at least one volunteer. Selectman Nadeau indicated he would also serve. Chairman Coutu said that the two of you can arrange your schedules to have some sort of a meeting. I think that we have enough from the Recreation Department. We can look at their mission statement because basically what it is is a recreation program for seniors, which will encompass obviously a lot more because it's a little more involved. It's year round and they do trips and things of that nature and we don't want to see any of that stuff go away. With that if there's no disagreement, consensus I'll appoint both of them to serve on that committee. As soon as you have a mission statement and a plan, bring it before the Board so that we can vote on it and set this thing in motion and then we can march forward with appointing people to the committee.

Selectman Luszey would suggest that we put a deadline on it and have it for August 28th when we're going to be speaking with the architects on the building design, the cost, and with the current Council on Aging on reviewing all of that. I think we should have that proposal ready at that time too because that ties everything together. Chairman Coutu said that was fine by him.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Coutu asked if any Board member wished to remove any item for separate consideration.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Brucker, to approve consent items A, B, C, D and E, as noted or appropriate, carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed/Timber Warrant

B. Water/Sewer Items

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Outdoor Gathering Permit - Old Home Days
- 2) Raffle Permit - 3Moms1Mission
- 3) Raffle Permit - Hudson Dog Park
- 4) Request to Solicit Funds - Teen Challenge New England

D. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the June 26, 2012 meeting
- 2) Minutes of the July 10, 2012 meeting

E. Calendar

07/25 7:00 Planning Board - Buxton CD Meeting Room
07/25 7:00 Benson Park - Landscape Cte - BOS Meeting Room
07/26 7:30 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/01 7:00 Planning Board - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/02 3:30 Trustees of the Trust Fund - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/02 6:30 Recreation Cte - BOS Meeting Room
08/02 7:00 Benson Park - Landscape Cte - BOS Meeting Room
08/07 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
08/08 7:00 Planning Board - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/08 7:00 Benson Park - Landscape Cte - BOS Meeting Room
08/09 5:00 Sewer Utility Committee - BOS Meeting Room
08/08 7:30 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/13 7:00 Conservation Commission - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/14 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
08/15 5:00 Water Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room
08/15 7:00 Council on Aging - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/16 7:00 Benson Park Cte - BOS Meeting Room
08/16 7:00 Budget Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/20 7:00 Energy Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/21 7:00 Cable Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room
08/22 7:00 Planning Board - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/22 7:00 Benson Park - Landscape Cte - BOS Meeting Room
08/23 2:45 Trustees of the Trust Fund - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/23 7:30 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room
08/27 7:00 Recycling Cte - BOS Meeting Room
08/28 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on July 10, 2012

- 1) Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to hire Matthew Costa of Windham, NH at a rate of \$17.67 per hour (Grade VIII, Step Minimum) effective July 29, 2012 and Scott Fuller of Pelham, NH at a rate of \$17.67 per hour (Grade VIII, Step Minimum) effective September 30, 2012, carried 5-0.
- 2) Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to approve the time extension request for the Step 3 Highway Union Grievance (John Dowqos), carried 5-0.
- 3) Motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, carried 5-0.

B. Amendment to Town Code Chapter 205 - Fees, Section 205-9 - animal control fees

Chairman Coutu to recognize Captain Bob Tousignant, Hudson Police Department.

Captain Tousignant said this is up for review. This amendment to the Town Ordinance was basically a housecleaning proposal. We discovered an error in Section 205-9 and we've proposed that we take away the rates that are listed in

the Town Ordinance manual because they follow the RSAs. Every time the State increases the fines, we have to change our Town Ordinance manual. We just simply want to refer to them as going by the RSA 466. The second page of the changes, we wanted to take and put all the fees in 188 and combine them in 205 so all the fees concerning animal control fees are all in one section of the Town Ordinance manual and 205-9.

Chairman Coutu made an inquiry as to RSA 466. There are no major increases. It's just we're in compliance with the State code on animal control fees.

Mr. Malizia said this will go to a public hearing for August 14.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to forward the amendment of Town Code Chapter 205-9 Animal Control Fees for a public hearing scheduled for Tuesday, August 14, 2012.

Selectman Maddox asked why "D" wasn't broken up into two separate.

Chairman Coutu explained that Selectman Maddox was asking why we don't have "dogs at large" and waste removal" as two separate items. In reading it, it kind of looks like it's a combination of both. Captain Tousignant said it was the same fees. Dogs at large and waste removal is not separate because it's the same fee.

Chairman Coutu clarified by saying he thought D. should be "Dogs at large" and E. should be "Waste removal" even though the fees are the same. Somebody might interpret that as meaning...Captain Tousignant indicated that these fees are established by the Board of Selectmen and we figured it was easier to combine them to save some space. However if you'd like them separated, we can do so.

Selectman Maddox thought it would make sense at some point Mr. Chairman because some future board may change those. Also, I think again it is a little confusing. Chairman Coutu asked if Selectman Maddox was suggesting that we have D. Dogs at large; E. - Waste removal; and F. Unwanted animals. Selectman Maddox said yes. Seeing no objection, Chairman Coutu said we'd make those corrections.

Selectman Brucker asked if there was anything about picking up wild animals or is that something that is not done. Captain Tousignant said these are animals that the Animal Control Officer would handle, which these are fees that would be charged to people for whatever the situation is. A wild animal nobody owns them. Selectman Brucker asked if the Animal Control Officer would have anything to with that. Captain Tousignant said if it's a danger to people in town, we respond to that or police officers, or the Animal Control Officer, or Fish and Game.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Permission to advertise for a vacant Truck Driver/Laborer Position

Chairman Coutu recognized Road Agent Kevin Burns.

Mr. Burns was seeking the Board's permission to advertise.

Chairman Coutu said all of you are aware that we now have a vacant truck driver/laborer position within the Highway Department. What is the wish of the Board? Any discussion?

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to grant permission to Road Agent Kevin Burns to advertise for a vacant Truck Driver/Laborer within the Highway Department, carried 5-0.

B. Zach Attack 5K Fun Run

Chairman Coutu said this was given to him at the last minute and I asked that it be put on the agenda. I played in the Zach Tompkins golf tournament and this was brought to my attention that we had not taken action on this because no application was made. Mr. Malizia said this was the third annual running of this race. It's going to be on August 25, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Coutu said they'll organize at the high school, the same route. Chairman Coutu recognized Mike Carbonneau.

Mike Carbonneau, 21 Lenny Lane, Hudson, NH. It is going to be very similar to last year. We're going to do it down at Alvirne High School in the roads behind the high school. We meet at the parking lot at 5:30 on Saturday. Last year it was on a Friday. Nothing has really changed. It's all going to be the same. It's gone 2 years in a row without a hitch and I don't foresee any other problems this year.

Chairman Coutu said when you hear the motion it says 6:30 because that's the time the race begins. The 5:30 is for late registering and people who haven't pre-registered. Last year was a very successful event thanks to you and your coordinating efforts in getting this off the ground. It's just grown and it's great to see. To Nicki Tompkins, I know she might be listening or watching. It's her birthday this week. Zach's Mom. Happy birthday Nicki.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to approve the Zach Attack 5K Fun Run on August 25, 2012 at 6:30 p.m., carried 5-0.

Mr. Carbonneau thanked the Board for their continued support. We appreciate it.

- C. Public Hearing - Acceptance of a donation from Home Depot for materials valued at \$686.75 for graffiti cleanup at Benson Park

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Mr. Malizia said yes you need to accept this but Home Depot was very gracious in donating materials to repaint the gorilla cage. As you are well aware, there was some vandalism a few weeks ago. They heard about it and they came forward on their own and stepped up. They provided the materials and I believe some volunteer labor. Certainly the materials. So what you're being asked to do is accept that donation with the Board's thanks and appreciation.

Chairman Coutu opened the public hearing at 8:48 p.m. Does anyone in the audience wish to speak on this item? Clearly articulate name and address for the record.

Paul Lacasse - 5 Logan Court, Hudson. I just wanted to add my thanks to Home Depot for their generous gift as well as all the employees that volunteered their time to help. Without them, it would not have gotten done as fast as it did. I wanted to make sure that they know it was well appreciated.

Chairman Coutu declared the public hearing closed at 8:49 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to accept a donation from Home Depot for materials valued at \$686.75 for graffiti cleanup at Benson Park with the Board's thanks and appreciation.

Selectman Nadeau thanked Home Depot, again, and just to let everybody know that the Friends of Benson Committee sent a letter thanking Home Depot. It was also the volunteers from the Benson Committee that helped with the Home Depot crew. I wanted to make sure we thanked them also.

Chairman Coutu said it was well noted and I know that this Board as Selectman Nadeau has stated very appreciative Paul and the people that you work with. Please let them know how much we appreciate their timeliness in getting this cleaned up. Obviously without the material from Home Depot, it would have been a little more difficult but it was great to have our volunteers' hands on getting this job done.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

- D. Authorization to apply for the State of NH, Department of Safety, Interoperable Emergency Communication Grant

Chairman Coutu recognized Chief Shawn Murray.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Chief Murray wanted to make one quick correction for you to better clarify. This will be the Interoperable Emergency Communication Training Grant which is very much similar to the one after that. Mr. Chairman we're here tonight to ask the Board to support applying for the Interoperable Emergency Communication Training Grant. The long and short of it is the State of New Hampshire has freed up some training money in both communication training for dispatchers and some highly needed hazmat technical rescue and emergency management training throughout the State. They will reimburse and pay for the cost of these courses. There is no matching funds needed for it. It's a win/win situation for the Fire Department.

Chairman Coutu asked how many of our employees do you think will participate. Chief Murray thought we may get at least 10 to 15 that will take advantage of it.

Selectman Luszey said this is great that this money is available but do you have a training plan that exist today that would show the need for any of these courses being taken and identify the employees that would need to take that versus just looking for money and additional ways to spend time. Chief Murray said absolutely. There's some

hazardous material refresher courses. We're required on an annual basis to have at least 40 yours of refresher training. That's one of the areas that we look at. Technical rescue for example. I believe 3 or 4 of the employees are slated for Swift Water Rescue Operations. Certainly where we have the Merrimack, this is highly technical specialized training. Matter of fact also along with some of the rescue system training and technical rescue - today we had a specialized rescue of a horse which required special riggings, ropes, and specialized training to be able to rig that up so we could get the horse out of the situation that it was in. This is all part of recurrent training.

Chairman Coutu saw the pictures that Hudson Heat put out today and I was very impressed with the way they harnessed that horse with limited or no danger for that horse whatsoever. I think that's the second one we've had in as many years that we had to do a horse rescue. I was very impressed with the skills that these men and women have and maintain in order to do these kinds of things. What I'm interested in Chief when I read this was that I know that over a course of even one year, so many changes can be had in terms of having to mitigate some of these situations in terms of what is out there that's polluting the air or could be a hazardous or a waste of material that someone is employing in order to cause harm to a community. Having first responders having this advanced training and knowledge in what to deal and how to deal with those situations, and how many people need to be evacuated, and what they should use in order to contain the hazardous material or contaminant that's out there, I think that this provides a great opportunity to add those additional skills and upgrade the level that they've had up to now and make our community safer. I applaud you for applying for this grant.

Selectman Nadeau had a question. Are we going to be doing it on overtime or when are these classes scheduled? Do we know that any of these type of things or do they give us a schedule and their on duty they go? Where are they held?

You may not have it in front of you but Chief Murray was looking at list. They have \$4.5 million. Just as a real quick side, the Police Chief was in here a couple weeks ago for the radio parts. That's what the State did for law enforcement. On the fire side, they saw the need for this training. They have 14 hazmat refreshers scheduled; 6 hazmat techs; 4 technical rescues. It is paid on overtime. That is reimbursed by the State and the State will also pay to back fill the position of the person that you're sending for training. It just matters where their class falls and whether they're working or not. Matter of fact one other quick side note, 3 weeks ago Kathy Carpentier, Bill Oleksak, Jim Michaud, myself, and our Training Captain were over in Nashua. They had a day long course on what you need to know in the law during disasters. That was all paid for by the State too towards emergency management. This opportunity will go through October of this year. If they don't spend all this money, then the Feds get it back. So that was one of the reasons.

On page 2 under "Program Overview", "Local Entities Allocations Narrative of Budget", Selectman Brucker stated it says, "Total Local 80% funds obligated toward Training OR Exercises. The local entity will designate their preference..." What does that mean that 80% of the funds are spent on the training?

Chief Murray said he didn't know if the Board recalled but we belong to two mutual aid entities - Souhegan Mutual Aid and Border Area Mutual Aid. So they're allocating that money to the mutual aid systems which we are a part of. It's how they're going to spread that money out.

Chairman Coutu said it was not an obligation on our part. This is 100 percent funded in terms of...as he explained in answering Selectman Nadeau's question, they'll pay even for overtime so that we can send somebody who has an assignment. We don't get that that often.

When Selectman Luszey looked at this, I saw it as a 100 percent win for us. My first question to the Chief was he has a training plan for a number of these activities for our folks to do. We're going to get basically reimbursed to do that work that we had planned anyway. Chairman Coutu said with even a greater emphasis on the newer ramifications of what's out there right now that we're not fully aware of.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to authorize the Fire Chief to apply for the State of NH, Department of Safety, Interoperable Emergency Communication Grant.

- E. Authorization to apply for the State of NH, Department of Safety, Homeland Security Funded Training Program Grant

Chairman Coutu recognized Chief Shawn Murray.

Chief Murray said it was the same parameters except this is actually the one that focuses on the hazmat and some of the technical rescue parts of it.

Chairman Coutu asked if the conditions are exactly the same as that which was previously reported in the other grant. It costs nothing to the community whatsoever. Chief Murray indicated that was correct.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to authorize the Fire Chief to apply for the State of NH, Department of Safety, Homeland Security Funded Training Program Grant, carried 5-0.

Resignation of Fire Department Executive Secretary

While you're here Chief if there's no objection, as you know...everyone should have received notice that the Fire Chief's Executive Secretary has submitted her formal resignation to accept a position as Assistant to the Town Administrator in the Town of Amherst. This is a position which would offer her an opportunity to advance in her career. As much as we're going to be very sad to see her go, I worked very, very closely with her as did other members of the 9-11 Committee. She was the backbone of our organization and kept us all in check. She will be sadly missed. In the interim, she does serve as the Executive Secretary to the Fire Chief and I would like to have you entertain a motion to authorize the Chief to advertise to fill the Executive Secretary's position.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to authorize the Fire Chief to advertise to fill the Executive Secretary's position.

Selectman Luszey was not going to vote in favor of this right now. I think most of you - actually all of you have heard me say at one point in time or another that I believe we need to take a look at all of the work that is being done within our town organization and take a look to make sure that we have the right people in the right place with the right skills. I think this is one of the roles that we could use as an opportunity to start that work. Later on this evening when we come to the Selectmen's comments I was actually going to make a request and a motion that we actually formally start that work by asking all of the department heads to do a organizational and work flow analysis for all of the organizations and basically given that we're about to enter into the budgeting season to do a zero based budget approach to the budget this year to re-justify every person in the town's organization. That's kind of where I'm at right now.

Chairman Coutu intends to comment but he'll open the floor to anybody. Selectman Brucker asked where does that leave Chief Murray at this moment. Chairman Coutu said he wanted to open it up for discussion for everybody and he will give his \$.10. Any other comments? Chief Murray - Chairman Coutu understands that having worked with you now for some time, I understand the critical need of this position. She's not just a file clerk and you're welcome to chime in when I finish. This is not a file clerk position. This is the Executive Secretary to the Administration of the Fire Department. There is another person that serves in that office. I would say that she is not of the caliber for Executive Secretary at that level of Executive Secretary. An Executive Secretary in most capacities, and you should well know Selectman Luszey, we have both served in administration - I for the City of Lowell and in the private sector and you in the private sector - that your right hand man or in many instances or right hand person is the Executive Secretary within the organization. I think that this is a vital and absolutely necessary position. Whether or not we have the right person in that position, which is also a critical aspect of any organizational structure, is having the right people doing the right kind of work that is necessary for the execution of that department's tasks. There is ongoing communication as you know in both of our public safety agencies both in police and fire. We need to have somebody of a caliber that can deal effectively, intelligently, and speak with one voice representing the Fire Chief in terms of assisting him and the deputies on an as needed basis. To be able to communicate exactly the message they're trying to get out whether it's with staff through interoffice memos, or whether it's with the community at large, or with organizations and the governmental community within our structure that they have to communicate with on a day to day basis. We need someone in there who can vet all of the material that is going out, the language in which we wish to have it interpreted or the Chief would like to have it interpreted. I think that at this point to say that we may want to look and see whether or not this is a critical position, I have been here long enough to know that this is one position that I know is a critical need and I feel that I can articulate that need within that department.

In terms of choosing the right person, Chairman Coutu thought the Chief needs to vet the candidates very, very carefully. I sat in on the last hire, which was the Assistant Fire Chief and I can assure you that I feel that we went through that process very carefully. We vetted the candidates very well, and we found the right candidate and have no regrets to this day that we hired the right candidate. I think he needs to vet that person and we need to further vet it before we approve hiring that person by having the Chief and whoever else is involved in the selection process for the new secretary and explain to this Board how that candidate rose to the top. With that, I highly recommend that we authorize the Chief to advertise for the position. Any other comments anyone wishes to make?

Selectman Maddox was torn Mr. Chairman. There's never going to be a chance to do what Selectman Luszey wants to do if we keep on always finding someone that has to be replaced. I think that government grows to the limits of its monies that it garners. I think that we need to take a look to see as technology has changed do we need all the

positions that we have? I think that Selectman Luszey has been beating his head against the wall for a year now. When do we start? Right after this one.

Chairman Coutu said a little while ago, and this is what bothers me, two positions were allowed to be advertised in the Highway Department. No one said we're going to restructure government, let's freeze the hiring process, and let's see if these positions are really needed. Now it's the Fire Chief. This is an executive administrative type position and now it's critical.

Selectman Nadeau said Chairman Coutu was comparing apples to oranges. Plowing your roads is not the same as doing your paperwork and being the secretary to the Fire Chief. It's not as critical to me. It might be to other people but not to me. I would like to look at the plans; I would like to see what Selectman Luszey has to tell us; I would like to look at this because this is one of the things that we've talked about for many years on the Budget Committee, many years in town government of how we can restructure some of the offices. We went through this the other night with the Building Inspector. We went through this a couple of times in other secretarial positions. I would like to not post it tonight. I'd like to look at all of our options before we do post it.

Chairman Coutu recommended that we impose an immediate hiring freeze on the Town of Hudson. That's the only way you're ever going to accomplish the 6 months it's going to take to study every single department and whether every position in this town is necessary. What we're saying is that our administration is...Selectman Nadeau said he wasn't done yet. Chairman Coutu said you didn't speak up when I spoke up so you may proceed.

Now that you've said it, Selectman Nadeau said no I do not want to do a hiring freeze. I would like to look at the positions as they come up and need to be filled. I think plowing our roads is a very important thing to be done and not having a truck driver/laborer could be the difference between getting your roads plowed 6 hours from now or 45 minutes from now. It could be an emergency type thing. I don't see a secretary as an emergency type thing. I wouldn't suggest a hiring freeze.

Selectman Maddox offered a compromise. Why don't we authorize the Chief to hire a temp. to take care of his needs so that we can do both things. I don't want to hurt the Fire Department or the Chief. It's nothing to do with that. It is when are we ever going to start doing this? If we gave 60 days of attempt to be able to do, we're going to need that to hire somebody anyway. I don't know when she's leaving. I forget what the e-mail said.

Selectman Brucker didn't think we should be punishing Chief Murray because this idea of looking at the organization hasn't taken place. We haven't looked at all of the positions. There's an immediate need. I think that all of the positions are important. I would agree with Ben that it's important to have Highway workers but this is something that is kind of immediate. Just because we haven't planned for this and even if people were thinking about it 6 months ago, we should have been looking at it 6 months ago and started doing that. I don't think it's fair.

The reason Selectman Luszey is doing it now is because I brought this up many times. More than 6 months ago. The only opportunity I have seen that this Board is willing to even talk about it is when we go to hire people. I'm kind of where Selectman Nadeau is. A truck driver for the Highway Department is very different than Administrative Secretary or even a Deputy Fire Chief. Very different. Where my head's at right now in terms of the town organization is in the administrative section of the organization. I think we're top heavy there. I talked about it when the Building Inspector came in about the needs of going part time to full time there. We see it when we had an Assistant Town Administrator leave. We've not back filled that position. I think there is an opportunity here for us to take a look at the administrative level of our organization and improve its efficiency. I can go in and I can look at work and I see people doing the same type of work in different organizations and I say to myself, why do we have so many of those types of people? Because they work in different organizations and that is because that's how the town grew out of these little organizations. We're at a point now that I believe we need to slow down a little bit and take a hard look at what we need. I'd be willing to vote to let the Chief go out and advertise so he could start vetting that. If I get a commitment out of this Board that we will start the work of taking a look at all of the administrative jobs that take place in this town.

Selectman Brucker thought that was fine. I think we should have taken the job on ourselves once back obviously. I agree with you. I think we need to give Chief Murray - he needs someone.

Where Selectman Luszey was at is I'll approve the posting but unless I see action going forward, I won't approve a hiring.

Chairman Coutu asked if Selectman Luszey was all set. I don't want to be criticized for stepping on anybody's toes. I will yield to Selectman Nadeau.

Selectman Nadeau would be willing to post the position but not immediately. I'd like to look at the needs first because I think once we post the position, we're going to be going down the same slippery slope that we go down every time when we do it. Once you post it, you have to hire it. That's how it works here. Every job that we've posted, we've hired. There hasn't been one that we've posted and not hired. In 15-20 years that I've been sitting on the boards, every time they post a job, it's been hired. I'd rather look at the need first before we post the job.

Chairman Coutu asked Selectman Nadeau if we were done for the time being. I want to make one thing clear. It's relative to the Highway Department. I wasn't condemning Mr. Burns for coming here to hire 2 positions. What I questioned was the need for the 2 positions. I'm not trying to make a comparison between jobs. What I understood and what I've always understood Selectman Luszey from you was that you wanted to look at the structure and the need for each of the positions in the town. Now you've narrowed it down to looking at administration. I always thought that you wanted to look into the potential of overhauling all of the departments if it was necessary and identify those jobs which are not really necessary. I don't disagree that we need people to plow the streets. Do we need 3? Do we need 7? Do we need 9 to effectively do the job? That's what I'm questioning. We went ahead and we hired 2 positions. I don't even know how many truck drivers he has but we're hiring 2 without giving any thought of do we really need 2? Can we only use one? Do we need 3? Sometimes as you know, you've done it, when you're doing an organizational structure, you find deficiencies. If I had one more additional support person, I could make this more effective. Sometimes it works the other way. It's not just job elimination. It's looking at the structure and whether or not it's what we need to facilitate the needs of that department or that agency.

Chairman Coutu would like to take on that job. I love doing that. I work a full time job. With the budget season coming upon us, who's going to do this work to look at every single department and start looking at restructuring everybody and have everybody in Town Hall and in our town government on edge of whether or not I'm going to have a job next year or not have a job. It's going to do more to create havoc within our working community, our municipal government, and I don't disagree that we shouldn't do it but how are we going to do it? Where is the manpower going to come from to do this kind of analysis of need? I don't have the time to do it. I work 50-60-70 sometimes 80 hours a week depending on what season we're in. We're getting into the fall and the winter. My hours become 72 a week.

Selectman Luszey believed it falls flatly on the Town Administrator's shoulders to do that work with the department heads. That's their job to make sure that we have the most cost effective and efficient organization in place. I have not seen a change in the structure of this town in how we do things since I've been here since 1984. Chairman Coutu said that we have one of the lowest tax rates around and the cost per capita is far less than the Town of Hudson than it is in most other municipalities. If you want that detail analysis and you feel this is something that he should be doing, then the consensus of the Board will dictate what he does because he works for us. That's what Selectman Luszey is asking for. If it's the will of the Board to do that, then great. If not, so be it. Chairman Coutu understood. Is that the will of the Board?

Selectman Nadeau said that was what he was interested in doing.

Selectman Maddox said yes.

Chairman Coutu indicated we have a consensus.

Mr. Malizia asked what does that mean.

Chairman Coutu said rather than get into an elaborate discussion, I don't mean to cut you off, would it be fair for me to ask you to sit down with Steve and just give him an idea of specifically what we're looking for in terms...you know where I'm coming from. Selectman Luszey said it's not a 6 month project. Chairman Coutu said he knows it isn't. It's a little more consuming. Selectman Luszey said it won't happen for this budget season. I know that for a fact. Chairman Coutu thought we're going to at structure but I think at that time while this is in motion if positions do come up, priority be given to that department at that time so that if we get a recommendation to hire, it's been vetted by the Town Administrator and that department head and we find that there's a necessity for the job.

Vote: Motion carried 3-2. Selectman Nadeau and Selectman Maddox in opposition.

F. Discussion with Council on Aging relative to senior center building

Chairman Coutu recognized Selectman Luszey.

As you know, Selectman Luszey has been meeting with the Council on Aging for quite a few months now on and off. Mostly on. We have come to the point I believe in our discussions and meetings as a liaison to a nonprofit organization to use the Chairman's words, "is about to enter into a financial transaction with the Town". I think it's time that we have an open and transparent discussion with that organization in regards to that financial transaction

and put on the table any expectations on both sides of the fence. My role in this is to facilitate the building of a Hudson Senior Center on behalf of all of the taxpayers and the seniors at large. The Council on Aging is a nonprofit 501.3 (c) organization that is a private held organization. I just want to make sure that when we enter into this financial transaction that the public at large is aware of what that might mean to them. With that, I'll turn it over to the Chairman Renzullo.

Andy Renzullo asked what exactly is your question. What is it that you expect of us? I'd like to tell you what we expect of the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Coutu thought that was the question. From Mr. Renzullo's point of view, I think what we expect from the Board of Selectmen is that we're going to have a senior center for seniors. Not a building that could be used by the recreation commission as it sees fit but something that is delegated for the use of Hudson seniors. Not the Hudson Senior Council on Aging, not the Friends of the Hudson Seniors, which is the larger organization, but Hudson seniors. All Hudson seniors. That is what we're about. To that end, we want to make certain that this building becomes and is a senior center. We're concerned, I say we but I am concerned, that we don't want to see something occur that occurred several years ago where all of a sudden the seniors were displaced from the place that they thought was their senior center and they were cast out on the road. We don't want to see that again. We want to see if we can't put into place some way of getting that agreement in perpetuity to be able to have something that says this senior center shall be used as senior center and not as something that we see basketball hoops showing up there from midnight basketball somewhere. We don't want that. That's where I think we are most concerned with.

Mr. Knowles basically agreed with Mr. Renzullo just said. There really are two things. One is that there is some history. The Council on Aging is now acting for the Hudson seniors - the organization, and we've got a substantial amount of money that we want to donate to the Town to create a town function, the senior center. Because there is this history of the seniors being displaced from the supposed senior center, you just don't want that to happen again. They spent a lot of time, a lot of effort collecting this money, and a lot of emotional energy has gone into it. They want a senior center. That's really all it comes down to and they want to make sure it stays the senior center.

One more thing real quick. Mr. Knowles said it's not just the people with the money here, I think the whole town is expecting a senior center. People voted for a lot of money for the capital reserve funds. They have been very supportive and they're voting for a senior center. So we just want to make sure that that happens. I don't certainly want to imply that anybody here doesn't intend that to be the case. What happens 5 years from now? Or 10 years from now when maybe none of you is here and somebody else comes along and has a different idea? They just want to make sure that we're in locked in basically.

A very simply solution here Selectman Luszey. Chairman Coutu had this vision that we were going to have all of these obligations and this lengthy contract that we're going to sign. We as a Board, and as you know both of you - one former member of the House of Representatives and one now still active member of the House of Representatives. We cannot bind future Boards of Selectmen to agreements that we make unless we entered into a formal lease agreement. We don't want to do that because we're trying to make the separation because we were asked to incorporate senior activities in our town structure.

The very simply solution is this, in my opinion, I have been in contact and I had quite a lengthy discussion today with Representative Jasper relative to several things that were going on at Benson. As you know, we have approached the Department of Transportation to provide us with an opportunity in exchange for not building on the property that the old red barn after it was burnt down, we gave up that right to build with the proviso that they let us build on a separate site which would be a lot more aesthetically pleasing and a lot more feasible to build on for a senior center. We are bound by certain conditions of that deed. The Department of Transportation is granting us the exemption to build on that land for an exchange of in kind contribution work that we will have to do so we get the value of the land. It is being done so with the proviso that we build a 2 tier barn replica. One, the bottom tier is going to be used for Hudson Cable Television and the second floor is going to be used for the Hudson senior center. If this is what you want in order for you to be satisfied enough that we have committed to seeing this to its fruition, something that this Board has been intent on for the 5 years that I've been here unanimously whether it was this makeup or the previous makeup with Selectman Jasper. We served together for 3 years and then prior to Selectman Luszey.

Chairman Coutu said this whole agreement still needs to go before the combined committee, the House and the Senate to give final approval to this transition from State land to our use to build on the condition that we do the \$173,000 worth of in kind. We can have the Legislative Committee adopt in that language that 50 percent of that building will be used for Hudson senior whatever we call the official committee. The Hudson Senior Affairs Committee center and it will be used exclusively for that purpose. I would ask Representative Jasper to incorporate that language, and I'm sure we can get that done. I think that by State eat it because they are still the primary conservatives of that land. We bought it and we own it but they can throw us out tomorrow if we violate any of the conditions. It is very clearly stated that they can give us our \$180,000 back and take the land away from us. We don't see that happening because we have been very conscientious about what our deed restrictions are. We are willing,

and I'm sure this Board would agree, that we would be willing to incorporate whether it be in the deed, an addendum to the deed, or by legislative edict through this combined executive committee to guarantee that 50 percent of that building will be for senior activities for the life of that building in that location that we've selected the building in. Would that be satisfactory to you?

Mr. Renzullo thought the Hudson seniors would have to discuss that at a future meeting. It does sound intriguing however...Chairman Coutu said the point is that this legislative committee is going to meet - I don't know if it's in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Renzullo thought it's just talking about the Joint Committee. That is its meeting not as in its legislative capacity but it's a quasi administrative capacity. Chairman Coutu said we can have DOT incorporate the language. Mr. Renzullo said right. It couldn't be statutory unless a bill was brought forward in the next session. A deed restriction, that's something different. I think we need to discuss that a little bit more. I also think I need to talk to former Selectman Jasper to see exactly what his thoughts are and where he thinks he's going on this.

For you and for your group, Chairman Coutu said know that I speak without any question for this Board when we say we have a commitment. We've met that obligation by coming this far. We are this close and we are trying to make the burden as financially feasible as can be upon the taxpayers without overburdening them and without having to go to bond. We, as a Board - a governing body today, are committed to seeing this happen and we want it to happen. We cannot legislatively commit future boards to...

Mr. Renzullo said technically you can. You are an administrative function not a legislative function. There's two different things. I don't want to get argumentative on that issue but I think one of our concerns, and I think it came up quite quickly with the advent and the introduction of the committee that you're looking to set up which you just had interviews for, the structure of this committee would be under the agents of the Recreation Department under the Recreation Director. Immediately if you recall when we had the discussion around at the very early discussions that we had around this whole issue was the problem that that would cause having it part of that structure. If I'm not mistaken, the reporting would be to the Assistant Town Administrator at the time. Is that not...

Chairman Coutu interjected. I think we're going down a road we don't want to go down. Nothing has been cast in stone. I want to make that very, very clear. If you recall when I first came to this Board the very first motion I asked the Board of Selectmen to adopt was to allow me to provide an opportunity to bring the senior organization and the recreation people together to put an end to this infighting that was going on over whether or not who threw who out and whatever. I hoped we had come to a resolve. To think now that this is still in the air before we've even cast anything in stone, it bothers me. I had a little bit of apprehension tonight during the meeting thinking about I hope we don't go down that path and here we are. Let me tell you that we have not cast that in stone. Am I amenable to changing that organizational structure? Absolutely. We used that a structure because we're familiar with that structure. Can we do it some other way? Absolutely. If it was going to be a stumbling block, we will remove that stumbling block and we will rectify it.

Mr. Renzullo said consider that my testimony to the 2 gentlemen that were part of the subcommittee.

A couple of things Mr. Chairman. Selectman Maddox would think that we would go to the voters. Make this a warrant article to say that until such action of the voters at another future town election, it will be the senior center. I think tying it to the State forever, we don't know what's going to happen in 40 years. Hopefully we're building a building that will last. The seniors may decide they don't want to do it anymore. We're going to have an empty building. I think we need to look pragmatically at this. If the voters of the Town of Hudson are supporting this, they will approve a warrant article that states that this upper floor will be used exclusively for senior programs, senior use until such time as another vote of a town meeting/vote. I just think going to the State adds another 6 months of stuff. Those are the people that are going to fund this that are going to carry this forward.

The other thing I'd like to say Mr. Chairman is at the time the seniors were in the community building - or at the time it was Lions Hall. There was an issue that had to be resolved. I don't think the Recreation Director should be punished forever for the actions that a board took with very difficult choices to make of putting kids in there, a safer location, and displacing the seniors, and they found a home for them and all of that. I think that that should not be held against the Recreation Director. I think that he would serve the seniors well if that was his responsibility to do so. I think that having the seniors report because we don't have an Assistant Town Administrator, would then report to the - it would be the only committee that does that. I think we're setting ourselves up and the group up for a lot of problems. I would hope that we step back and say it's not the same situation. Let's go to the voters. Let's make it a warrant article and have the voters say that only they can change that vote. I think it's going to be a lot cleaner and a lot faster. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Coutu asked if that was palatable.

Mr. Knowles had a question. If you're saying that you want the voters to approve this, but if I understand it correctly, you're asking for a commitment to money now. If you're going to put a warrant article up, you're going to have to say we need so many dollars to finish the project. You're going to have to know whether you've got this substantial amount of money from the seniors in play or not. That means you need to know that now but what if the voters for some reason are in a bad mood and they don't approve it in March? Then you have the money but you don't have the commitment.

Selectman Maddox said we could tie that to the money that we're still going to have to ask them to finish the project. If they don't approve that warrant article, they're probably not going to approve the funding. Your contribution...Mr. Renzullo said it could very well be part of the same article. One could make one contingent on the other. Selectman Maddox said exactly. Mr. Renzullo didn't think the transfer of funds would not occur unless there was approval of the warrant article. Selectman Maddox indicated of the two warrant articles.

Chairman Coutu said there's always a third option. I'm going to be honest and I'm going to throw it out on the table. We cannot accept the money; we can refuse to accept the money and we can proceed and build a senior center like we promised we would and we can have it run structurally and ask the voters if they want to bond it or do it. We're talking a \$2 million building and we're looking at what \$300,000 out of the \$2 million. The last price I heard was \$2.4 million. That's the number that was given to me. I know it's being restructured. We're committed to opening a senior center. I don't care how we do it with or without the private organization's money. We're committed to getting that building built and open it for senior activities. That's my position.

Mr. Renzullo thought we're not that far apart. We want to see this building to be a senior center and so do you. All we're talking about is how do we make certain that it is and stays a senior center and doesn't become after looking at something else based on some future page in the Board of Selectmen. That's it. There's nothing much more than that.

Chairman Coutu said they could draft a binding warrant article...Selectman Luszey said the never ending agreement I think is unrealistic for what you're putting into it, versus what the voters are putting into it, and versus what the cable utility users are putting into it. I would think that a guarantee of 10 or 15 years might be more appropriate. After that, the taxpayers are the ones that's picking up the bill for this thing. If they decide they no longer want a senior center, that's their right. To be held hostage forever, I think is unrealistic.

Mr. Knowles asked what the time frame is on this. Really Andy nor I is authorized to come here and make a deal. Chairman Coutu understood that. Mr. Knowles said they can talk about different options and we can say what we think, but we really need to go back and talk to some other people before we can really do anything. I suggest that you really not...Selectman Luszey thought about the first of October because that's when we have to put the budget together. Chairman Coutu said they had to get the warrant articles and everything in. What's our deadline?

Mr. Malizia said that's as good as any other one because you're really getting into the thick of it. We need to have some idea...Selectman Luszey said he's been pushing for it for the end of August to have the cost for the building done because we need September to vet it through the process.

Chairman Coutu said we'll be dealing with you again. We agreed that when that final draft came in, we would sit down with you and we will discuss it. Selectman Luszey has been on top of preparing that. I don't know when you're meeting next. Mr. Renzullo said the third Wednesday in August. Chairman Coutu said if you can have a healthy discussion. We're not meeting until the last Tuesday in August. So that gives you some time to talk about. Your meeting is August 15. I just don't want to get into some lengthy contract that we have to sign because we can't commit other boards. If we can come up with some wording on a warrant article that we can tie to conditionally if the citizens approve however we present it to the voters, that we will assure that a senior center...but the language has to be clear. You and I Andy as well as you John - not that you're the most conservative of the 3 of us, you're probably the more liberal of the 3 of us, but we don't want to build an edifice that's going to go unused. So if at some point there's a legitimate reason to convert it because there's just no senior interest in it, I don't see that happening. But if at some point in time there's no senior interest that they're not even going to the building, that the Town can do something different with it. I agree in a sense with Selectman Luszey and Selectman Maddox in that a lengthy commitment - we have to come up with the language to make it work. I'm willing to support a warrant article to accomplish that but with certain limitations.

Selectman Maddox wanted to throw out a different view to this Mr. Chairman. What if this is wildly successful and we need more space? We would then be trapped in a building that we cannot expand because of the deed. So we might have to move to another location and now we're trapped with this building that we can't do anything else with. So I think that the warrant article approach Mr. Chairman is the way to go. Tying it through the deed I just think it's going to handcuff us. Chairman Coutu said that was fine. I didn't disagree with that. I agree now. That's what we're here for to generate ideas.

Selectman Luszey asked if the warrant article was for the acceptance of the funds conditionally. I see a scenario where the voters may approve a warrant article to put up a senior center with no contingent acceptance of funds with contingency of occupancy. Chairman Coutu said they may say build the building but we don't agree to the plans. So now we get no money and we're committed to building a building. Then they have to find a way to give the money back because they can only use it to build a building or go build a separate building.

If we allocated \$2 million through a bond and someone came in with a gift of \$300,000, Selectman Maddox indicated that just gets taken off. If we have up to \$2 million to expend if there was a gift, there's a gift. Chairman Coutu said he didn't see a \$2 million bond being passed. Good luck with them. Selectman Nadeau said creative financing. Mr. Malizia said they get money from the cable utility too so it's not going to be \$2 million.

Mr. Knowles asked if they could perhaps arrange to talk to somebody about what this language might be in a warrant article. Can we talk to the town attorney? We don't have the authority to go do that. Chairman Coutu asked Mr. Malizia if he understood where the Board was going. Mr. Malizia said probably. Chairman Coutu asked Mr. Malizia to have the question posed to our town attorney please. We'll see if we can come up with a warrant article because they have to approve the warrant article anyway - the language. So we will explore that for you and if we come up with something prior to your meeting, we'll make sure that it sent to you.

Mr. Renzullo said they're trying to brainstorm a problem in a meeting that doesn't allow for brainstorming that well. It's a formalized meeting. If we had had this conversation in a meeting similar to the meeting that we had those many years ago to get this whole thing running, which was really a brainstorming session as to how do we get - we know where we are but how do we get to where we want to go? It took a while, but we solved the problem. We're struggling with it here. If you need another meeting somewhere where some of us can get together and brainstorm this to come out with exactly to word smith it, I'm available and John is.

Frankly, Chairman Coutu said we have 2 appointed members from the Board of Selectmen who have been working on and off if not for nothing else with you. I'm sure they are both available to sit down with you. If one or the other wants to take the lead, Selectman Maddox has volunteered to do so. You want to set up some sort of a meeting and then an informal with the Town Administrator before we talk to the lawyers, might I suggest that the two of you converse with Selectman Maddox and...you brain storm. See what you come up with. We're all on the same page here. I'm just trying to put all of the cards on the table. No one needs to start advocating for the senior center. We all know where we stand. Lucille would kick us in the butt if we didn't hold our position. We're firmly intent on opening a senior center and whatever we can do to accommodate some language be it via warrant article to satisfy you, then we would welcome your donation and working cohesively to getting this thing done. Okay. We'll see you back in the last meeting in August for the final plans and hopefully warrant article language.

G. NHMA 2013-2014 Legislative Policy

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Mr. Malizia said the New Hampshire Municipal Association, which the Town of Hudson is a member of, every year puts together legislative policy recommendations through some subcommittees. They give the towns an opportunity to either weigh in if they like this, they don't like this, they'd like to see something else. So what you have in front of you similar to last year is their current list of proposals. I think there are a couple different subcommittees ranging from general government through I think planning or land use. Basically you have an opportunity if you've had an opportunity to look at these proposals. I believe last year I went up to their conference and cast a vote basically to your preferences for some of these things. Some of them you had no preference. It's also an opportunity should you wish to - the reason it's here right kind of right now a little early, is if you want to have any proposals forwarded you need to do so by August 17th. I did notice there was one that was recommended by our Chairman that's in here. Again, it's an opportunity to participate, provide input, direction, and make your feelings known regarding legislative items that the NHMA through their lobbying legislative arm will be working on. That's why you have this in front of you.

Chairman Coutu asked who was going to go and represent us this year. Mr. Malizia said that's up to you. If you want me to go, I would do so and even one of you could go if you want to. Chairman Coutu answered yes to my vote. Mr. Malizia said it is not imperative that we have a position on everything because quite frankly not everything affects us. It's just an opportunity for you if you had something, if you saw something, it something peaked your interest, or you have a particular desire to see something different, that's why it's here. Other than that generally speaking, I would assume most of this stuff will be advocated either for or against depending on what HMA has recommended. Unless you want to take a contrary position, it's probably not really necessary to do anything else is basically what I'm saying. Again, that's your opportunity. That's why it's here to give you some time. If you're not ready tonight, there's no reason why you couldn't do it at the next meeting.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Luszey - I've said enough tonight.

Selectman Maddox - Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just a Merrill Park update. Last meeting we had some people come in. The very next day Highway and the police were there. There has been a meeting of the some of the neighbors. The other swing is gone. There has been an uptick in patrols. The Police Department had over the last 12 months prior to that meeting 78 dedicated patrols in Merrill Park. So it wasn't like it was not known. It was just a function of getting the Police Department to be aware. They are ongoing with their patrols. They have been having people actually walking the park. I think Mr. Chairman that we as a Board needs to ask the Recreation Committee to kind of take a look at that park and see where we want to go with it possibly. At the very least probably put some signs up saying the hours of operation because there is nothing at this point. Those are the kind of things maybe we should be taking a look at Sir.

To that and I don't know if you're aware, Chairman Coutu said there's more ropes. They found more trees to put ropes up. I had a reporter come in and talk to me about it. I communicated back and forth with Kevin Burns in Highway and he says do you want me to take every tree down over there? I said no. They were not being intrusive. They were very polite. The reporter found them to be very polite. He did quite a story. He took pictures of them. Selectman Luszey you were totally enmeshed at the time they were taking down the tree. I was communicating back and forth between you and Selectman Maddox. I know that you and I have communicated. You've been back and forth in the park. I'm sure at some point you have too as well Ben. I don't know if you had an opportunity to go down Selectman Brucker. There seems to be a quiet, a lull over the whole thing. It's kind of calmed down. Kudos to the Highway Department for an outstanding job. They went in there and cleaned up quite a bit of the overturned old picnic solid stone tables and some of the debris. They cleared out that tree that was overhanging the river and fairly dangerous. Hopefully things will quiet down and we'll have some peace and resolution to that problem.

Chairman Coutu has asked the Town Administrator thanks to the publisher of the Hudson Litchfield News. Len provided me with an old Master Plan for Merrill Park which I found very, very interesting. He provided me with copies of it. Hopefully with that information from Mr. Lathrop, the Town Administrator has the original which I provided him, which is a copy of what Lenny has and make it available to all of you so that we can look and see if there's something...in the original Master Plan we had talked about Robinson Pond if you remember for the recreation. Merrill Park may be the ideal place providing we fence off the river and keep the access open for the boat ramp. It's something for us to consider. That document will be made available. It's a working document for our Master Plan and for future recreation.

Tomorrow night Selectman Maddox said the Planning Board meets and we're going to be talking about the south end of town. It is, again, if you read the paper today I said that the Planning Board is actually going to do some planning rather than reacting to something to put on the table in front of them. Again, I think it's only the first step of many but at least we are looking at some issues that I don't think we really contemplated. There is an awful lot of land still to be developed in the south end of town. I think this is a worthwhile endeavor to take a look at what might be needed as we move forward.

The last thing Selectman Maddox had tonight Mr. Chairman is the roof for the community center. Is that going to be going out to bid shortly? Mr. Malizia said he was going to be writing a spec when I get back from vacation which will be put out to bid which anticipates September/October getting bids and the work done. Selectman Maddox said it would be nice to have it done for November's election. It kind of ties in with it. I still think that we need to get the word out of how we're going to get traffic to go around the building. I'll talk to the liaison to see if we can get some arrows and some one way signs. If we can get traffic to go around the community center because that was the pinch point the last time of people trying to come out. Again, we're expecting a huge volume of people for Election Day. We want to be prepared. Thank you Mr. Chairman. That's all if have.

Selectman Brucker - The Water Utility Committee met. They wanted to report that the ground water is still good. It's only down a quarter to half an inch. The Weinstein Well will be put in in the fall with the \$161,000 of encumbered funds. That's about it.

Selectman Nadeau - A lot of stuff for your entertainment this evening. First one is Thursday. This week the Highway Department is going to be starting work on Robinson Road. Expect long delays or find other ways around it. They're going to be doing some work and there will be detours set up. The easiest way to do that is just avoid the area. There's no easy way around Robinson Road if you're familiar with that area of town. That is one major cut through from 111 to 102. There's no easy way around the pond, Barretts Hill Road, or the back way through Londonderry.

Selectman Luszey asked how long? Did he give you any length of time? Selectman Nadeau said he says roughly a week. They're starting on Thursday and he said roughly next Thursday barring no weather problems or any other excitement that they might find.

On the Highway Department side, Selectman Nadeau said the dump is open this Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. You may bring down your cardboard if your recycle bin is overflowing. It's open for yard waste and your other waste as long as you have your coupon.

Back to recycling. Selectman Nadeau said we've only had it for 3 weeks now and I think people are starting to adjust to it as much as you hear some complaints and some very positive feedback. Very positive feedback is we're recycling 8 percent more. Our tipping fees for the trash are down. So that means more of our stuff is finding their way into those nice bright blue barrels. If you do have any problems with your recycling, I would encourage you instead of writing letters to the Hudson/Litchfield News, or the Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down, talk to the Road Agent, talk to myself. We can see if we can help solve those problems. As always when you have a new system, it doesn't matter what it is, you always have bumps and hiccups in the operations of that system. Even if you get a new computer, you always have new problems so there's always a way to fix it and hopefully we can resolve this and get our recycling numbers up.

The other thing is great news at the Benson front. Selectman Nadeau indicated that the Dog Park paid off their fence this last week. So they're looking forward to moving forward in...they're going to donate the fence to the Board in an upcoming meeting. I want to say the word is "up fit" the park so that it can be used now. Their biggest thing was let's get the fence paid for. One of the stipulations that we had is once that was paid and donated and got everything squared away, then can open up the park. They are very, very close to doing that. That's very exciting news down there because people are chomping at the bit to get in literally. That's all I have this evening.

Selectman Coutu - I'm going to pick it up with recycling only because Selectman Nadeau you pretty much hit the nail on the head. I appreciate your input. I know that you work as a liaison to the Road Agent and you've worked very closely with him. To reiterate one thing that you said is that it's not uncommon, as a matter of fact it's very common place that when anybody institutes change, people resent change. They react to change very negatively. That's exactly what happened here. People are concerned. We're 3 weeks into this program and you look at the number who have complained and the number of people who have complimented. I can tell you that my visibility in the community only because I'm in a unique situation. I have a store and people come down from the north end. They come down from the Pelham line. They come in from the south end. It's not just the south end. People are telling me they love it. An overwhelming majority of people are telling me they love it. In the event that the initial outpouring of discontent that I was hearing was going to become so cumbersome upon us to try to react to having something done, the only solution obviously would be, and Selectman Nadeau you and I have talked about this, going to weekly collection of recycling. That would cost an additional \$100,000. The \$100,000 that Mr. Burns thought out of the box to be able to save our community. If you only have a maximum of 50 people complaining out of the thousands of users that we have, we're certainly not going to want to spend the \$100,000. As Selectman Nadeau pointed out, the news that is most refreshing is that our recycling numbers are up and our tipping fees are down. That's also another objective. When your tipping fees are down, that means you're paying a lot less. So we may realize if this continues, that trend continues, we may realize a savings far greater than \$100,000.

Chairman Coutu has suggested to Mr. Burns that let us go through a full quarter cycle which will take us through the end of September and we want to look at the numbers on recycling as compared to prior to this change and the numbers on the tipping scale and see if we are indeed putting a lot less rubbish there. Then we can make an intelligent decision. To make a decision 3 weeks into a plan - some people have only had their recycling. Well I guess everybody has had it picked up once pretty much is what it is. Some of us up until today in the south end, this is our second pickup. I think there's somewhat of an overreaction. Mr. Burns reminded me and I think you gentlemen were on the Board at the time when you originally went to the scoop up barrels, there was an outcry. This isn't going to work. This is horrible and then everybody loves it. Now we're changing that just a little with the recycling and we have this outpouring of discontent from a few people. I agree with you Selectman Nadeau. I think that we need to sit back and take a look at this in the future.

Before you switch off of recycling, Selectman Nadeau had one thing that I did forget to say. We do have other size barrels available for the elderly population in town who I've talked to a couple of people that these barrels are too big for them. I have a family of 6 so I've trained Logan and Bailey to jump and down on my recycle bin every week so that I can put more recycling in it. There's other people in town who don't need that big of a recycle bin because they're a family of 2 elderly older people or younger people that don't have much. Those barrels are available. Again if you contact the Road Agent, he can get you a smaller barrel if you're one of the ones who need a smaller barrel. If you have other recycling needs, the Road Agent is the one to talk to. If you have a problem with too much recycling, we might have options for you available. For those who have the additional cans that they had purchased previously, they can get some stickers to swap those over to extra recycling barrels. Maybe you can make deals with your neighbors if you need their recycling barrel. Buy it off of them or borrow off of them and swap the stickers if that gives you some ideas Selectman Luszey. I'm glad I was here to help you out a little bit.

It was Selectman Brucker's understanding that you can use another bin right? You just get the blue sticker and put it on your other trash bin. Chairman Coutu said he thought it can be picked up with the arms...Mr. Malizia would direct people to the Road Agent before we make any statement that people can use any other bin. Chairman Coutu said the Road Agent is more than willing to accommodate people with special needs. He's made that very clear. Mr. Malizia said if you formerly had a trash barrel with a gray lid, you could put a sticker on that. That is the only sticker you should be putting it on.

Chairman Coutu wanted to congratulate Laura DeAngelis. I was very fortunate to have been asked by the family to appear at her Girl Scout Gold Award. That is the highest award that is given out to a Girl Scout. I've done many Boy Scout Eagle Awards and I've never done one for a Girl Scout. I couldn't think of a nicer family or a nicer girl to do it for. Laura as you know is the girl who was elected to the Cemetery Committee and I've always been a strong

advocate of getting our youth in our community involved. She's an absolute sweetheart. She comes from a great family. I don't know if any of you have had the opportunity to see the project that she did at the cemetery. She did with the Boy Scouts they did the tour of the cemetery and the Scouts were all dressed representing different people who were buried in the cemetery was absolutely fantastic. It gave a good education on the cemetery. Congratulations to Laura.

This coming Thursday, Chairman Coutu will be going to the 9-11 Memorial at 2:30 p.m. I will be hosting a group of approximately 9 handicapped seniors. I will be giving them a tour of the 9-11 Memorial and all of them are residents of the Town of Hudson.

The train station, some of you may know that this has been an ongoing 2 year battle with the Department of Transportation. Chairman Coutu has been in meetings for the past 2 days with Bernie Manor. He's been so kind as to come and visit me and try to keep me abreast of what's going on. I spent some time today on the telephone with Representative Jasper. I know that this was one of his pet projects. We are close to getting it done once and for all. I have received assurances from Representative Jasper that he is going to stay on top of this and if necessary, I asked him and he suggested too that we may pull all of the parties together - Gary Webster, myself, Representative Jasper, Jonathan, and whoever has been working on this train. We're going to go into DOT. We're going to sit down with them and we're going to put everything on the table and get this thing expedited like we had to do for other things like Benson. I want everyone to know that we haven't given up on the train station. Representative Jasper has been working with our representative at DOT. Hopefully we'll get a resolution or an answer within the next two weeks.

Chairman Coutu wanted to thank everybody who participated in the Tompkins Golf Tournament last week. It was a tremendous success. We had a great time. We didn't win it but coming in second isn't too shabby. We're very pleased about that. The most important thing is it was a fundraiser for them and it was a very successful event. With that, I have nothing else. Is there anybody else?

Chairman Coutu announced that the Town Treasurer, Gary Rodgers, who was recently elected, has submitted his resignation. I would assume for personal reasons. The former Treasurer, Karen Burnell, who we know very well has offered to fill the position effective August 1 through March 2013 to get us to the next Town Election. If there is a wish for the Board to do that, I would entertain a motion.

Motion to appoint Karen Burnell to the position of Treasurer effective August 1, 2012 through March 2013 annual Town Election.

Chairman Coutu indicated that there was not a motion on the floor.

Selectman Nadeau said as you are aware, this is a very crucial need for the Town. I have talked to Harry Schibanoff who ran for the position. I don't know if we want to post the position or what we'd like to do. Harry is interested in the position. I've also come up with a couple of other things for this position. One of them being we have the authority to appoint a Deputy Town Treasurer. What I'm looking to do is I don't think this position should be elected any more or a town our size and for what we do. I'm looking to put a warrant article together for next year so that this position would be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. What we'd have to do is appoint an interim Treasurer and the other thing is I don't know - Karen has offered here services and so has Harry. I don't know what we'd like to do. Harry did come in second in the election for the position. I would like to see where you guys would like to go with this.

Chairman Coutu was hoping that we would take a person who doesn't need any on the job training and has had years of experience as our Treasurer and appoint them until the next election. I'm going to maintain my position. Harry is a friend of mine but I want to make sure that we have a very smooth transition. It's been a rough from what I understand 3 months.

Selectman Maddox believed in the NHMA one of the things was to be able to. I don't think at the present time they have to be elected. I think that was one of the questions on the booklet to be able to have the selectmen appoint the Treasurer. Selectman Nadeau indicated they had to do it as a warrant article. Mr. Malizia said you have to do legislation by the legislative body which is the voters to allow you to appoint. I would make the motion that you stated. I think that although I would like to see Harry, I don't want to have Harry be frustrated by trying to do on the job training, trying to play catch up. I think that if Ms. Burnell is willing to do it, I think we should take advantage of experience over enthusiasm.

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to appoint Karen Burnell to the position of Treasurer effective August 1, 2012 through March 2013 annual Town Election.

Selectman Luszey's only hesitation on Mrs. Burnell is she left the position because she took another position where she didn't have the time. I'm wondering what changed that now she has the time again. Are we going to be face with another Roger in a couple of months?

If I could add to that. Mr. Malizia knows that the position that she took previously was somewhat new to her. She was going through a busy time. She's the one willing to step forward. I'm assuming she can manage her time and understand the functions of the job. That goes without saying. We didn't put a gun to her head. We explained the situation saying what do you think? What do we need to do? What kind of person are we looking for? She's the one willing to step forward. I have to assume that in her current role she's realized that she has some time to devote to this. The other thing too to be frank with you, she's been working with the gentleman that was elected for the last 3 months. Selectman Luszey said that was good information. Quite honestly, Mr. Malizia said she's probably been doing her share of assisting him in the training and the transition. What I might recommend that you do so that we don't have a single point of failure is once we do this appointment, we should look at posting for a Deputy. Then you can consider candidates who may come in - Mr. Schibanoff maybe one, there be others. You could then have a Deputy appointment. You with the Treasurer you can approve a deputy. It might be a good idea to not have a single point of failure. It also gives an idea of what the job is like. I don't believe Ms. Burnell is going to run again. That's not my understanding. She's willing to do this temporarily. Needless to say, it would be a good idea to have your Deputy so you don't have a single point of failure.

To Selectman Nadeau's point, Mr. Malizia said he is quite correct. We're a \$25 - \$26 million business. You need to really know what you're doing when you're investing town money and town disbursements. Unfortunately it's not always as easy as it looks. It's not a ceremonial job. This is an actual. You are doing the work. You are assisted by the Finance Department, the Town Accountant. You have support but you have a responsibility. In my opinion and the Finance Director's opinion, it would be better to have the Board of Selectmen have the authority to appoint. So Selectman Nadeau is quite right. We want to think about putting in an article forward for the next ballot to see if the voters will approve that. Quite honestly, this is a \$25 - \$26 million business. We're getting too big to be part time to do some of these things are elected. The voters can certainly said no to that, but I think it's something I think the Town needs to start thinking about seriously. That's my pitch.

If we were to go with a warrant article that would do that, Chairman Coutu said people could still run for the position. Mr. Malizia said what would end up happening I believe by law is people would run for the position. Let's say the warrant article passed. Whoever won the Treasurer would do it for a year because it's not until the next year that the term ends. The law understands that and says if this fails what do you do? That person should they win would basically be a one year seat. At that point, the next year comes along the selectmen could then appoint. Chairman Coutu would certainly support a warrant article to have the town appoint providing it's not an annual thing. Mr. Malizia believes it would probably follow along the lines. It's probably the term that you're looking at right now which is a three year term. Again to be quite frank, this is a single point of failure we need to correct. This person is eminently qualified, steps right into the job. It's quite honest without the Treasurer no disbursements. That means no accounts payable, no payroll, no nothing until we have a Treasurer.

Chairman Coutu said he supported that. It's a great idea. Selectman Nadeau would also like to think about in the next month or so getting a Deputy so that if there is another point of failure that for some reason she goes out sick or something, that we have...we'll have to write up a job description. Mr. Malizia said he's written up a job description. It's easy to put the word "Deputy" in front of Town Treasurer and strike out the stipend because they get nothing. They don't get paid. I'm assuming in the absence of the Treasurer, they could get a prorated share. For example if the Treasurer was incapacitated, moved on, we'd then be able to forward the salary but having the Deputy doesn't mean okay buddy here you do all the work. It means I'm here in case something happens to you. It's easy to put the word "Deputy" here. If you'd like, we can start posting it. Selectman Luszey suggested we do that and we appoint one. Mr. Malizia said you have to the concurrence of the Treasurer. Selectman Luszey said and we go for a warrant article because what that would do is this is training in action. Mr. Malizia said by Statute the Treasurer has a say in the Deputy. It's basically the Board approves that. I just want to make sure we're understanding that the Treasurer has a say.

If this motion should pass, Chairman Coutu asked Mr. Malizia to approach...there's still discussion on the motion. To that end, Selectman Maddox said with her experience, I would hope that she would allow one or two people to at least see what happens. I think the problem with this job is nobody knows what it takes. It's kind of like selectmen. We make it look so easy. Nobody realizes what it takes. This is a job that everything hinges on. The payroll doesn't go out; the payments don't go out. If we could at least have them aware of what it takes, it's great to put your name down but if you don't know what it's going to take to do, it could get real challenging real fast.

If Mr. Malizia could interject real quickly, the Finance Director and the Town Accountant are both well converse and could quite readily step into the position. Unfortunately because of your separate of church and state, you don't want that. Trust me when I tell you those people know exactly what goes on and knows exactly how to do it and quite

frankly could train a new Treasurer if they had to. Chairman Coutu said one less position to see if there's a need for. You need that position.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Coutu asked that our appreciation is extended to Ms. Burnell for stepping in. I would hope that you will discuss with her the feasibility of a Deputy. Chairman Coutu didn't know that they needed to post it and we had a person who came in second with a vast amount of experience. We can discuss that. If she's in accord, we'll take the steps and then would you also work with our attorney on language for a warrant article for an appointment of that position.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to enter Nonpublic Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee; (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant; (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with any body or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Nonpublic Session is being entered at 10:22 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Open session is being entered at 11:55 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 12:00 a.m. by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HGTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Roger E. Coutu, Chairman

Benjamin Nadeau, Vice Chairman

Richard J. Maddox, Selectman

Ted Luszey, Selectman

Nancy Brucker, Selectman